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Harvard restricts contracts with CIA

Harvard University issued new guidelines yesterday for the dealings between faculty and staff members and US intelligence agencies such as the Central Intelligence Agency.

Under the guidelines, the university itself can enter into research contracts provided the existence of the contract is made public.

Individuals who enter "direct or indirect consulting arrangements" for research or analytic services must report them in writing to a faculty dean, though there will be no public disclosure.

The guidelines also stipulate, "There should be no covert recruiting at Harvard." Recruiters will have to register with the university.

The guidelines were drafted by Harvard general counsel Daniel Steiner, Prof Archibald Cox of the law school, Dean Don K. Price of public administration and government and Dean Henry Rosovsky of arts and sciences.

In a statement they said, "Members of the Harvard community should not undertake intelligence operations for the CIA," nor lend their names to misleading propaganda efforts.

Harvard president Derek Bok requested the guidelines after the Senate Intelligence Committee reported last year that "there is a problem" in the way the CIA used academics.

When asked what would happen to faculty members violating the guidelines, he said, "It really would depend on the nature of the violation."

MORI/CDF